

1 1162 AMS WM S2551.1

2 **HB 1162** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Ways & Means

4

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that promoting a
8 financially viable health care system in all parts of the state is a
9 paramount interest. The health care financing administration has
10 recognized the crucial role that hospitals play in providing care in
11 rural areas by creating the critical access hospital program to allow
12 small, rural hospitals that qualify to receive reasonable cost-based
13 reimbursement for medicare services. The legislature further finds
14 that creating a similar reimbursement system for the state's medical
15 assistance programs in small, rural hospitals that qualify will help
16 assure the long-term financial viability of the rural health system in
17 those communities.

18

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 Payments for recipients eligible for medical assistance programs
22 under this chapter for services provided by hospitals, regardless of
23 the beneficiary's managed care enrollment status, shall be made based
24 on allowable costs incurred during the year, when services are provided
25 by a rural hospital certified by the health care financing
26 administration as a critical access hospital. Any additional payments
27 made by the medical assistance administration for the healthy options
28 program shall be no more than the additional amounts per service paid
29 under this section for other medical assistance programs.

30 For purposes of this section, "medical assistance programs" means
31 the programs defined in RCW 74.09.010 for which federal matching funds
32 are available.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW
34 to read as follows:

1 The department shall implement the program created in section 2 of
2 this act within sixty days of the effective date of this act regardless
3 of the beneficiary's managed care status.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
5 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
6 June 30, 2001, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
7 void."

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11 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "hospital;" strike the
12 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter 74.09
13 RCW; and creating new sections."

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